

PASTOR'S COLUMN

"GOD SPEED, GARY!"



This weekend we bid farewell to our Director of Music, Mr. Gary DeKler. Gary and Emma return to Colorado after two years of faithful service to our Faith Community here at the Church of St. Thomas More.

On behalf of Fr. Peter McGuine, the entire St. Thomas More Community, and myself, I thank Gary for his dedicated ministry.

Gary, know that all you did to enhance our music ministry that, in turn, strengthened our Eucharistic Celebrations, was and is greatly appreciated!

I have known Gary only for a few weeks, but I must say, that I regret not having the opportunity to minister with him.

Life's journey takes us on a path that has many twists and turns and the road ahead is uncertain, but we walk in Faith, knowing that the Lord is at our side.

Gary, Emma, your path now leads away from Oceanside and St. Thomas More Parish. We pray for you and ask God's choicest blessings upon you and your family.

Thank you for all that you have given to us. Our hope is that this Faith Community has enriched you and strengthened you as you continue on your Faith Walk.

Let us continue to hold each other in prayer! For all that has been "Thank You!" For all that will be "Yes!"



MR. DENNY DIPAOLO
Director of Music and Liturgy

Denny DiPaolo begins his ministry among us in the Faith Community of St. Thomas More on September 1, 2003.

These few weeks between Gary's departure and Denny's arrival allows Denny some time to "wind down" his efforts at Santa Sophia in Spring Valley.

In the meantime, I am very grateful for Kathy Santy and all the music ministers who have come together to provide for us during this interim period. Thank you so much!!

Denny's "job description" will be somewhat different from Gary DeKler's in that Denny's oversight will also include Liturgy as well as Music. We will begin working out all those details once Denny is among us.

In the meantime, I ask for your continued prayers as we move through another transition. Transitions are never easy, but with faith and patience, they can create a greater surge of energy rather than a loss of momentum.

Again, may our prayer be: For all that has been, "Thank You!" For all that will be, "Yes!"

Fr. Mike